



The United States Conference of Mayors

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STATEMENT OF TRENTON MAYOR DOUGLAS H. PALMER PRESIDENT OF THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

The Nation's Mayors Mourn for Citizens of Minneapolis and Minnesota

Washington, D.C. -- The nation's mayors mourn for those who lost their lives in the tragic bridge collapse in Minneapolis. Our hearts and prayers are with those who died and their families and friends, and the many others suffering from injury and shock as a result of this catastrophic event.

As we have already seen in the immediate response by public safety personnel, volunteers and average citizens in Minneapolis, in times of great tragedy, the American people always respond with kindness, compassion and generosity. We will stand with our friend, Mayor R.T. Rybak, and the citizens of Minneapolis and Minnesota to do everything in our power to help those impacted by the disaster, as well as help the community recover and rebuild.

The nation's mayors will also work with and support our friend and former mayor, Minnesota Senator Norm Coleman, to ensure federal assistance for the recovery and rebuild effort, as assessments of what occurred are in progress.

The greatness of the American city is in the hearts and souls of its citizens. We must make sure that the basic and necessary infrastructure which serves them is safe and secure. This is a fundamental and combined responsibility of all levels of government. We must understand how this tragedy came to pass; and we must invest in our bridges, roads, transit systems, sewers, waterways, dams, schools, and so much more to make sure that this tragedy is never repeated.

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USCM President and Trenton, NJ Mayor Douglas H. Palmer is available for interview by contacting Elena Temple at The USCM at 202-861-6719 or etemple@usmayors.org.